

EAST GRINSTEAD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1940



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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,597 acres
Population								
Registrar General's estimate, mid 1940								10,810
Density of Population								
Persons per acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.64
Number of Inhabited Houses								
Per Rate Book, 31/12/1940	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,823
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers								
Old East Grinstead Urban District 1931 Census								1,999
Rateable Value, 31/12/1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£93,546
Sum represented by 1d Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£371

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

There has been an increase of 1,088 persons in the population of the town.

The figures for unemployment are given below, those in brackets being the figures for the previous year.

<u>Unemployed</u>					
<u>Period</u>	<u>Men</u>		<u>Women</u>		<u>Total</u>
March Quarter	70	(107)	15	(25)	85 (132)
June Quarter	56	(88)	10	(20)	66 (108)
September Quarter	101	(174)	20	(30)	121 (204)
December Quarter	120	(195)	25	(35)	145 (230)
Average	87	(141)	17	(27)	104 (168)

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	M.	F.	TOTAL
Legitimate	73	51	124
Illegitimate	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>76</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>128</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 11.84

<u>Still Births</u>	M.	F.	TOTAL
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 0.46

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 37.59

Deaths

Males	57
Females	<u>80</u>
	<u>137</u>

Crude Death Rate 12.67

Death Rate (corrected for comparison with that of
Country as a whole) 10.47

Deaths from Puerperal Causes Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births 54.69

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 56.45

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live
births Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 19

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) ... Nil

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUPS	Number of Persons dying		
	Male	Female	Total
0 -	2	5	7
1 -	-	-	-
5 -	1	2	3
15 -	1	1	2
25 -	2	2	4
35 -	5	2	7
45 -	6	3	9
55 -	4	16	20
65 -	18	19	37
75 and over	18	30	48
TOTALS	57	80	137

Of the total deaths, 62.04% occurred in persons 65 years of age and over.

There were three deaths due to notifiable infectious diseases, all of which were cases of pneumonia.

There were seven deaths in children under one year of age, two males and five females. There were no deaths due to childbirth.

A table showing the causes of the infantile deaths is given hereunder:-

Cause of Death	Age at Death	
	Male	Female
Broncho-Pneumonia	2 months	
Cerebral Compression		1 week
Congenital Heart		5 months
Miliary Tuberculosis		4 months
Pneumonia		10 months
Prematurity	3 hours	
Septicaemia		6 months

DISTRICTS	Rate per 1,000 Population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Total Deaths Under 1 year
ENGLAND AND WALES	14.6	.55	14.3	55
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	16.0	.64	15.8	61
148 Smaller Towns, (Estimated population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.7	.55	12.8	54
EAST GRINSTEAD	11.84	.46	10.47	54

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	2	2	4
Tuberculosis: Other	1	1	2
Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	1
Influenza	2	3	5
Cancer	9	10	19
Cerebral Haemorrhage	7	10	17
Heart Disease	11	22	33
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	3	5
Bronchitis	3	1	4
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	3
Peptic Ulcer	1	2	3
Appendicitis	-	2	2
Other Digestive Diseases	-	3	3
Nephritis	4	3	7
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	1	2	3
Suicide	2	-	2
Road Traffic Accidents	1	1	2
Other Violence	-	4	4
All Other Causes	7	8	15
	<u>57</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>137</u>

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

These remain as in the previous year.

Ambulance Facilities

A Home Service Ambulance of the British Red Cross Society is stationed at East Grinstead, and serves the Urban District and surrounding villages.

For infectious diseases, an ambulance stationed at the High Grove Isolation Hospital at East Grinstead is available for the removal of all cases of infectious disease.

The ambulance service for the district appears to be adequate.

Laboratory Examinations

The laboratory examinations carried out during the year are here tabulated:-

PURPOSE	By whom taken and sent		TOTAL
	General Practitioners	Public Health Department	
Swabs - Diphtheria	7	-	7
Sputa - Tuberculosis	6	-	6
Blood - Serum Agglutination	-	-	•
Urine - Typhoid Fever	-	-	•
Faeces - Typhoid Fever	2	2	4
Milk - Bacteriological	-	73	73
Water	-	6	6
Other Specimens	-	2	2
TOTALS	15	83	98

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

During the year, 7 new houses were erected, all of which were afforded main water supply, 5 by the East Grinstead Gas & Water Company, and 2 by the Placeland Pure Water Supply.

The East Grinstead Gas & Water Company draws its water from two wells, one at Hackenden and the other at Forest Row. The water is chemically treated, limed and aerated to reduce the iron content, and lightly chlorinated as a precautionary measure. This treatment is automatically controlled.

Weekly tests, chemical and bacteriological, are made from each well in the Company's own laboratory. Confirmatory tests are made monthly at the Royal Institute of Public Health, each water being tested bi-monthly. These reports are available for examination by an officer of the Public Health Department of the Urban District Council, and have been consistently satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage

Of the 7 new houses erected during the year, one was afforded cesspool drainage in the absence of available main sewerage.

Public Cleansing

The dry refuse from private houses was collected by the Council and disposed of by controlled tipping at the Eden Vale Sewage Disposal Works until the end of March. The Council's refuse destructor plant at East Grinstead was then re-opened, after being overhauled and repaired, and the dry refuse was disposed of there. Trade refuse was removed and similarly disposed of at a charge to the trader.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Housing Regulations	210
Re-visits in connection with above	48
Nuisances	39
In connection with water supplies	11
Infectious Diseases	23
Other disinfections and disinfestations	6
Petroleum Stores	12
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	2
Shops Act	83
Meatshops and Slaughterhouses	180
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	121
Fish shops	8
Other Foods	10
Bakehouses	9
Factories and Workshops	11
Smoke Abatement	5

Total Visits and Re-visits	<u>778</u>
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Premises in respect of which Complaints were received

Number of Complaints Received	17
Substantiated	8
Abated	8
Outstanding	6

Summary of Main Defects Abated

Premises in which	Roofs were made good	2
	Floors were made good	1
	Other causes of dampness	7
	Rooms were cleansed	9
	Windows were made good or amended	1
	Chimneys " " "	1
	Disinfestation carried out	3
Drains reconstructed, provided or amended		15
Water closets --- do. ---		19
Eaves, Gutters and Downspouts		1
Cesspools reconstructed, amended or cleansed		1
Other Major Defects		4
Sanitary Dustbins provided		11
Water Supplies		11

Shops Act, 1934

Inspections as enumerated above have been made, but formal action has not been necessary in any instance.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Number of houses found to be infested:-

(a)	Council Houses	Nil
(b)	Other Houses	3

Eradication of Bed Bugs (Continued)

Number of houses disinfested:-

(a)	Council Houses	Nil
(b)	Other Houses	3

School Hygiene

The periodic inspection of schools has been carried out and details sent to the School Medical Officer.

It was found necessary to close St. Mary's Council School, North End, East Grinstead, for five days during February and four days during July-August for the control of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

There are on the Register of the Council:-

Retail Purveyors	38
Registered Producers	23
Registered Premises	31

Milk Samples - Results of Bacteriological Examinations

(a) Designated Milks

No. of Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Nil	-	-	-	-

(b) Non-designated Milks

No. of Samples Taken	Plate Count		Coliform Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
73	32	41	38	35

Meat and Other Foods

No formal action has been necessary with regard to foodstuffs, but the following have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

Beef	18 whole carcasses and offals	Tuberculosis
	13 heads and tongues	"
	40 sets of lungs	"
	9 livers	"
	1 set of offals (65 lbs)	"
	2 fores (225 lbs)	"
	2 hinds (355 lbs)	"
	1 whole carcase and offals	Peritonitis and Emaciation
	1 " "	Pyelo-nephritis
	1 " "	Johnes disease
	1 head and tongue	Abscesses
	1 set of lungs	Ech. Veterinorum

Beef	1 set of lungs	Pneumonia
	1 " " "	Abscesses
	3 livers	"
	22 "	Distomatosis
	1 liver	Necrosis
	24 lbs. ribs	Bruising
	178 lbs. forequarters	"
	242 lbs. top-pieces	"
	16 lbs. skirts	"
Mutton & Lamb	11 whole carcasses and offals	Emaciation
	1 whole carcase and offals	Fever
	2 sets of lungs	Strongylus Rufescens
	16 livers	Distomatosis
	1 liver	Necrosis
Pork	6 whole carcasses and offals	Tuberculosis
	23 heads and collars	"
	5 sets of lungs	"
	5 livers	"
	2 hinds (106 lbs.)	"
	6 whole carcasses and offals	Emaciation
	1 whole carcase and offals	Fever
	1 " " " "	Pyæmia
	1 " " " "	Erysipelas
	1 " " " "	Blown
	1 head	Abscess
	6 sets of lungs	Pneumonia
	1 liver	Fatty degeneration
	1 "	Necrosis
	1 loin	Injury
	8 legs	"
	1 leg	Atrophy
Veal	1 whole carcase and offal	Tuberculosis
	1 " " " "	Fever
	1 " " " "	Immaturity
	1 half carcase	Pyæmia
	1 " "	Bruising
	4 lbs. neck	Abscess
	1 pluck and kidneys	Abscesses
	9 lbs. hind	Ill-set
	20 lbs. "	Bruising
	1 leg (3 lbs.)	Atrophy
	1 leg	Bruising
	1 foot	Injury
Fish	10 stone Herrings	Decomposing
Other	3 bags brussels sprouts	Stale
	1 bag savoys	Decomposing
	154 eggs	"
	2 collars bacon (11½ lbs.)	"
	13½ lbs. fore-end bacon	"
	24 rabbits	"

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows and Heifers	Cows & Heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	219	169	738	1406	674
Number inspected	219	169	738	1406	674
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole Carcasses condemned	nil	3	2	12	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	25	11	9	19	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.42	8.28	1.49	2.20	4.0
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole Carcasses condemned	6	12	1	nil	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	30	29	nil	nil	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	11.87	24.26	.13	0.0	5.19

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 42 cases of infectious disease notified during the year. The diphtheria notifications amounted to 6.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The scheme outlined in the 1939 Annual Report has been continued, and the total number of children immunised during 1940 was 143, of whom 11 were under five years old.

Cancer

There were recorded during the year 19 deaths (9 male and 10 female) due to cancer, a rate per 1,000 estimated population of 1.76.

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS

Age group	Male	Female	Total
25 -	-	1	1
35 -	-	-	-
45 -	1	-	1
55 -	2	-	2
65 -	4	7	11
75 -	2	1	3
85 and over . . .	-	1	1
Totals	9	10	19

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)
DURING THE YEAR 1940

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Typhoid	Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Meningitis	Measles	Whooping Cough	TOTALS
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
1 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	11
2 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	11
3 -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	5	10
4 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	4	13
5 -	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	22	136
10 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	3	29
15 -	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	5
20 -	-	6	-	3	1	-	1	4	2	2	19
35 -	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
45 -	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
65 and over	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total cases notified	13	6	5	9	1	-	1	7	149	55	246
Cases admitted to hospital	13	6	4	1	1	-	1	4	8	1	39
Total Deaths	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

Prevention of Blindness

No action has been necessary during the year under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Tuberculosis

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	6	1	-	2	2	-	1

JOHN PETRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mr. H. T. Buckett (Elected 15/4/1940)

Mr. F. C. Dart

Mr. E. G. Macauley (Chairman: Retired 15/4/1940)

Mrs. H. M. Munn (Chairman from 15/4/1940)

Mr. G. Packer

Mr. St. John D. C. Payne

Mr. R. L. Streatfield

Dr. S. L. Walker

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
Assistant County School Medical Officer and Medical
Superintendent, High Grove Isolation Hospital

John Petrie
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTORS

(Senior) Wm. H. Dunham

M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

C. Peacock (From 23.10.1939 to 21.5.1940)

F. H. Williams (From 8.7.1940 to 23.11.1940)

CLERK TO THE DEPARTMENT

Miss A. Mildred

